

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for dispensing a ticket for obtaining goods or services a service or performance to be performed in the future, comprising the steps of:

processing by a ticket issuer a purchase of the ticket by a ticket purchaser connected to the ticket issuer ~~purchasing a ticket from a ticket issuer connected to a ticket purchaser~~ through a communication connection;

transmitting from the ticket issuer to the ticket purchaser an e-ticket containing information about the ticket purchased, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;

recording the e-ticket information received by the ticket purchaser on an IC card;  
reading by a ticket dispensing system the e-ticket information recorded on the IC card presented by a ticket user carrying the IC card;

dispensing by the ticket dispensing system a physical ticket based on the e-ticket information read from the IC card; and

updating the e-ticket information on the IC card reflecting the ticket issuance.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ticket user is the ticket purchaser.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ticket user is different from the ticket purchaser.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication connection includes a wired connection.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication connection is through the Internet.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication connection includes a wireless connection.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of: reserving a ticket to be purchased before the step of purchasing.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said purchasing is made in electronic money.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said purchasing is made using reward points accumulated for the benefit of the ticket purchaser.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
requesting modification of ticket information from the ticket purchaser to the ticket issuer;  
transmitting the modification information from the ticket issuer to the ticket purchaser;  
and  
modifying the ticket information on the IC card to reflect the ticket modification.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of transmitting further includes the step of encrypting said e-ticket information before transmission.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said step of reading the e-ticket further includes the step of decrypting the encrypted e-ticket information before reading.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of recording further comprises the step of encrypting said received e-ticket information before recording.
15. (Original) The method of claim 14, wherein said step of reading the e-ticket further includes the step of decrypting the encrypted e-ticket information before reading.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said IC card is identified by a unique ID, and said e-ticket information includes the ID of the IC card to be presented by the ticket user.
17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the steps of:  
identifying the unique ID of the IC card presented by the ticket user; and  
comparing the unique IC card ID with the ID included in the ticket information read from the IC card for security check.
18. (Original) The method claim 1, wherein the ticket information includes ticket user's personal information.
19. (Original) The method of claim 18, further comprising the steps of: asking the ticket user's personal information; and comparing the answered personal information with the personal information included in the ticket information from the IC card.
20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the e-ticket information includes reward points accumulated for allowing the ticket purchaser for purchasing a ticket in the whole or at discount.
21. (Currently Amended) A method for dispensing a ticket for obtaining ~~goods or services a service or performance to be performed in the future~~, comprising the steps of:  
processing by a ticket issuer having a ticket server a purchase of the ticket by a ticket purchaser having a user terminal connected to the ticket server ~~purchasing a ticket from a ticket issuer having a ticket server connected to a ticket purchaser having a user terminal~~ through a communication connection;  
transmitting from the ticket server to the user terminal an e-ticket containing e-ticket information about the ticket purchased, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;  
recording the e-ticket information received by the user terminal in a recording medium;

reading by a ticket dispenser the e-ticket information from the recording medium presented by a ticket user;

dispensing a physical ticket by the ticket dispenser to the ticket user based on the e-ticket information read from the medium; and

updating the e-ticket information on the ~~IC-card~~ recording medium reflecting the dispensing of the physical ticket.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said medium is an IC card.
23. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said medium is a flash memory card.
24. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said medium is a rewritable disk.
25. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said user terminal includes a computer.
26. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said user terminal is located at user's premise.
27. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said user terminal is located in public.
28. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of:  
reserving a ticket to be purchased before the step of purchasing a ticket.
29. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the purchasing is made using a credit card.
30. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the purchasing is made in electronic money.
31. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the purchasing is made using reward points accumulated for the benefit of the ticket purchaser.
32. (Original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

requesting modification of ticket information from the ticket purchaser to the ticket issuer;

transmitting the modification information from the ticket server to the user terminal; and  
modifying the ticket information on the IC card to reflect the ticket modification.

33. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said step of transmitting further includes the step of encrypting said e-ticket information before transmission.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said step of reading the e-ticket further includes the step of decrypting the encrypted e-ticket information before reading.

35. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein said step of recording further comprises the step of encrypting said received e-ticket information before recording.

36. (Original) The method of claim 35, wherein said step of reading the e-ticket further includes the step of decrypting the encrypted e-ticket information before reading.

37. (Currently Amended) A method for sending a ticket for obtaining goods or services a service or performance to be performed in the future to another person as a gift, comprising the steps of:

issuing by a ticket seller an e-ticket for a purchase of the ticket by a ticket purchaser connected to the ticket seller purchasing an ticket from a ticket seller connected to a ticket purchaser through a communication connection ; ~~transmitting from the purchaser to a recipient~~ an the e-ticket containing information about the ticket purchased, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;

transmitting from the purchaser to the recipient the e-ticket;

recording the e-ticket information received by the recipient on an IC card;

presenting the IC card by the recipient carrying the IC card; and

dispensing a physical ticket to the recipient based on the e-ticket information read from the IC card.

38. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.

39. (Original) The method of claim 37, wherein said purchasing is made in electronic money.

40. (Currently Amended) A method for sending a ticket for obtaining ~~goods or services a service or performance to be performed in the future~~ to another person as a gift, comprising the steps of:

processing by a ticket seller a purchase of the ticket by a ticket purchaser connected to the ticket seller ~~purchasing a ticket from a ticket seller connected to a ticket purchaser~~ through a communication connection;

transmitting information about the ticket purchased from the ticket seller to a transaction center;

transmitting from the transaction center to the ticket purchaser an e-ticket containing information about the ~~e-ticket~~ ticket purchased, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions; and

recording the e-ticket information on a first IC card.

41. (Original) The method of claim 40, further comprising the steps of:

requesting the transaction center to send the ticket to the recipient as a gift;

modifying the e-ticket information stored in the first IC card;

notifying by the transaction center to the recipient about the gift and requesting the recipient's response as to whether the recipient wishes to accept the gift;

if the recipient accepts, transmitting from the transaction center to the recipient an e-ticket containing information about the ticket sent as a gift;

recording the e-ticket information on a second IC card;

reading the e-ticket information from the second IC card presented by the recipient; and

dispensing a physical ticket to the recipient based on the e-ticket information read from the second IC card.

42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.

43. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein said purchasing is made in electronic money.

44. (Currently Amended) A method for reselling a ticket for ~~goods or services~~ a service or performance to be performed in the future, comprising:

processing by a ticket seller a purchase of the ticket by a first purchaser connected to the ticket seller ~~purchasing a ticket from a ticket seller connected to a first purchaser~~ through a communication connection;

transmitting from the ticket seller to the first purchaser an e-ticket containing information about the ~~e-ticket~~ ticket purchased, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the first purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;

recording the information about the ticket purchased on a first IC card;

transmitting the e-ticket from the first purchaser to a second purchaser;

recording the e-ticket information received by the second purchaser on a second IC card;

reading the ticket information recorded in the second IC card presented by the second purchaser; and

dispensing a physical ticket to the second purchaser based on the ticket information read from the second IC card.

45. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.

46. (Original) The method of claim 44, wherein said purchasing is made in electronic money.

47. (Currently Amended) A method for reselling a ticket for obtaining ~~goods or services~~ a service or performance to be performed in the future, comprising:

processing by a ticket seller a purchase of the ticket by a first purchaser connected to the ticket seller ~~purchasing a ticket from a ticket seller connected to a first purchaser~~ through a communication connection;

transmitting an e-ticket containing information about the ticket purchased from the ticket seller to a transaction center, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the first purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;

transmitting from the transaction center to the first purchaser an e-ticket containing information about the ticket purchased; and

recording the e-ticket information on a first IC card.

48. (Original) The method of claim 47, further comprising the steps of:

requesting the transaction center to send the ticket to the second purchaser for resale;

modifying the e-ticket information stored on the first purchaser's IC card;

notifying the second purchaser about the ticket to be transmitted; transmitting from the transaction center to the second purchaser an e-ticket containing information about the ticket sent for resale;

presenting the IC card by the second purchaser carrying the IC card; and

dispensing a physical ticket to the second purchaser based on the e-ticket information read from the IC card.

49. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.

50. (Original) The method of claim 48, wherein said payment is made in electronic money.

51. (Currently Amended) A system for dispensing a ticket for obtaining ~~goods or services a service or performance to be performed in the future~~, comprising:

a ticket server for transmitting an e-ticket containing information about ~~[[a]]~~ the ticket purchased by a ticket purchaser, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the e-ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of the purchase so that the e-ticket is negotiable for any further transactions;



~~an IC card for storing the e-ticket information;~~

a user terminal, connected to the ticket server through a communication connection, for receiving the e-ticket from the ticket server and for recording the e-ticket information to the an IC card; and

a ticket dispenser for reading the e-ticket information from the IC card presented and for dispensing a physical ticket to a ticket user based on the e-ticket information read from the IC card presented by the ticket user.

52. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said communication connection includes a wired connection.

53. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said communication connection is through the Internet.

54. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said communication connection includes a wireless connection.

55. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said ticket server further comprises an encrypter for encrypting the e-ticket information before transmission to the user terminal.

56. (Original) The system of claim 55, wherein said user terminal further comprises a decrypter for decrypting the encrypted e-ticket information received.

57. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said user terminal further comprising an encrypter for encrypting the e-ticket information before recordation on the IC card.

58. (Original) The system of claim 57, wherein said ticket dispenser further comprises a decrypter for decrypting the e-ticket information read from the IC card.

59. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said ticket dispenser further comprises a user interface for checking the ID of the ticket user.

60. (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said ticket dispenser comprises: a display for displaying ticket information; a keyboard for entering the ticket user's input; and a printer for printing a physical ticket.

61. (Currently Amended) A system for dispensing a ticket for obtaining ~~goods or services~~ a service or performance to be performed in the future, comprising:

a ticket server for transmitting an e-ticket containing information about ~~the~~ [[a]] ticket purchased by a ticket purchaser, wherein the e-ticket is integrated with the ownership of the ticket transferred to the ticket purchaser at the time of purchase so that the e-ticket negotiable for any further transactions;

~~a recording medium for storing the e-ticket information;~~

a user terminal, connected to the ticket server through ~~online~~ a communication connection, for receiving the e-ticket from the ticket server and for recording the e-ticket information onto ~~the~~ a recording medium; and

a ticket dispenser for reading the e-ticket information from the recording medium presented and for dispensing a physical ticket to a ticket user based on the e-ticket information read from the recording medium presented by the ticket user.

62. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said recording medium is an IC card.

63. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said recording medium is a flash memory card.

64. (Original) The system of claim 61, wherein said recording medium is a rewritable disk.

65. (Original) A method for issuing an electronic coupon ("e-coupon") that can be used in conjunction with purchasing goods or services at discount, comprising the steps of:

connecting online to an e-coupon issuer and requesting the issuer to issue an e-coupon to a user;

downloading information about the e-coupon on the user's IC card; and

presenting the e-coupon information on the IC card at a point-of-sale in conjunction with purchasing a good or service; and updating the e-coupon information on the IC card to reflect the use of the e-coupon.

66. (Original) The method of claim 65, wherein said purchasing is made using a credit card.

67. (Original) The method of claim 65, wherein said purchasing is made using the IC card.

68. (Original) The method of claim 65, wherein said purchasing is made using reward points accumulated for the benefit of the user.